

PATENT  
Docket 24Nordam1

In the Specification

Please substitute the following paragraphs for the corresponding paragraphs being amended:

[0009] In U.S. Patent 6,751,944 ~~Application No. 10/274,653, filed 10/21/2002;~~ and entitled "Confluent Variable Exhaust Nozzle," assigned to the present assignee, and incorporated herein by reference, an improved variable area exhaust nozzle is disclosed for a turbofan aircraft engine. The confluent nozzle includes outer and inner conduits, with a plurality of flaps therebetween. The flaps may be selectively opened to bypass a portion of exhaust flow from the inner conduit through the outer conduit in confluent exhaust streams from concentric main and auxiliary exhaust outlets.

[0047] As illustrated in Figures 2 and 5, the intakes 52 are circumferentially aligned with corresponding ones of the flaps 58, and therefore are preferably blocked thereby when the flaps are opened to uncover the apertures. In this way, opening the flaps 58 during takeoff operation correspondingly opens the bypass channels 56 while closing the discharge ends of the respective intakes 52. However, when the flaps 58 are closed as illustrated in Figure 6, the corresponding intakes 52 are then unblocked by the flaps and permit external ambient air 32 to flow into the flaps 58 ~~[[52]]~~ for ventilating the bypass channels 56, with the ventilated air then being ~~[[be]]~~ discharged through auxiliary outlet 54.